GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:337
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2001
ISI ACTIVITIES IN BENGAL AND NORTH EASTERN STATES
A.P. JITHENDER REDDY;BHIM PRASAD DAHAL;RAMESH CHAND TOMAR

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ISI has been actively considering to destabilise Bengal and other North-Eastern States with the help of anti-national activists/parties, as reported in the `Hindustan Times` dated , June 16, 2001;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the details of the concrete action plan formulated by the Union Government to deal with the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) to (c): While no such report could be located in the `Hindustan Times` dated June 16, 2001, Government is aware that ISI of Pakistan is involved in aiding, abetting and supporting terrorism in various parts of the country including in certain areas of the North-East.

In order to deal with the situation, Government have adopted a well coordinated and multi-pronged approach for tackling the activities of ISI which includes strengthening the border management, galvanizing the intelligence machinery, neutralizing plans of ISI by well coordinated intelligence based operations and modernization/upgradation of police and security forces with advanced sophisticated weapons and communication system etc.

Central Government has also been sensitizing the State Governments about the threat perception and activities of ISI in the country. Periodic coordination meetings are also held with the State Governments for sharing the inputs from various quarters as well as for devising strategies to counter such activities. Various security agencies belonging to Union and States have been working together to check the activities of ISI.

Diplomatic initiatives have also been taken with various countries to enlist their support in countering the activities of militant groups.